

**Resolution to undertake a local food planning effort in coordination with the City of Columbus
(Commissioners)**

WHEREAS, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners approved Resolution No. 0809-13 on October 22, 2013 solidifying Franklin County's commitment to a strong and resilient local food system; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 0809-13 directed Franklin County agencies to consider how programs and decisions affect the local food system, to continue efforts to increase citizen access to healthy, affordable food, and to advocate for neighboring governmental entities to support a strong and resilient local food system; and

WHEREAS, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners and Columbus City Council have shown strong support for local food initiatives through community garden grants, food business incubation programs, and other important food access programs; and

WHEREAS, this resolution is consistent with the Franklin County Board of Commissioners' Core Principles and Resolution No. 0809-13; and

WHEREAS, there is currently no plan addressing the needs of the local food system for Franklin County and the City of Columbus; now, therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO:

1. That the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, the Franklin County Economic Development and Planning Department, Columbus City Council, and Columbus Public Health agree they shall jointly undertake a planning effort to develop a Local Food Action Plan. Columbus Public Health and Franklin County Economic Development and Planning Department each agrees to assign a representative to act as the project lead for their respective agency. Each party further agrees to collaborate and work in good faith to carry out the tasks needed to complete the planning effort and develop a Local Food Action Plan.
2. That the purpose of the planning effort is to identify methods of strengthening the local food economy with an interest in social justice, through qualitative and quantitative analysis of local food supply and demand. In addition, the planning effort will identify methods of improving healthy food access in areas with limited access. The findings will be used to create linkages between consumers and producers as a long-term, economic development and public health strategy.

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3. That the planning effort will include data gathering and analysis of local food supply and demand in Franklin County, analysis of common themes present in local food stakeholder groups, and recommendations to strengthen healthy local food access and the local economy. Over the course of 18-24 months, the parties will research census and economic conditions relating to the local food industry, research existing local food policies and documents, conduct stakeholder interviews, survey stakeholders, and develop recommendations to strengthen the local food system.
4. That the project will be completed as a cooperative effort with one assigned project lead from each party, which is to be Matthew Brown from the Franklin County Economic Development and Planning Department and Autumn Trombetta from Columbus Public Health. Columbus Public Health will focus primarily on engaging residents and gathering and analyzing local food access information. The Franklin County Economic Development and Planning Department will focus primarily on engaging producer, commercial buyer, distributor, and processor stakeholders, developing stakeholder surveys, and gathering and analyzing said surveys. The Franklin County Economic Development and Planning Department will also be responsible for developing the final document layout, with creative input from Columbus Public Health. Both parties will actively contribute to developing content for inclusion in the final document.

Prepared by: Matt Brown and Lauren Rummel